



Transportation District 3
November 2001

Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin Michigan Street Bridge Study newsletter

Draft Project Environmental Assessment (EA) complete, public hearing to be held

Important dates

- Draft EA available for review - November 26, 2001
- Public hearing - December 11, 2001
- Preferred alternative selected - early 2002

Submission of comments

Comments regarding the environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvements can be submitted to the Department of Transportation by January 4, 2002. Mail to Mr. George McLeod, District Director.

Contact information

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If you have questions or concerns about this project or would like to be added to the newsletter mailing list, contact either of the above representatives.

Draft EA is complete

The Draft EA has been approved by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and Federal Highway Administration. It will be distributed to various review agencies and interested parties and will be available for public review at the following locations by November 26, 2001:

- Door County Library
107 S. Fourth Ave.
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
- Door County Maritime Museum
120 N. Madison Ave.
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
- District 3 Office Wisconsin Department of Transportation
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54324 (920) 492-5643
- Bureau of Environment
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Ave. Room 451 PO Box 7965
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7965

Copies of the EA may be purchased at the District 3 Office and Bureau of Environment. The anticipated purchase price is approximately \$40. Postage and handling costs would be extra for mailing requests.

Documents/studies referenced in the EA include:

- Corridor Study Report
- Vehicular Traffic Study Report
- Alignments & Geometrics Study Report
- Bridge Condition Survey
- Architecture/Historic Survey Forms
- Determinations of Eligibility (DOEs) for four properties plus the existing Michigan Street Bridge
- Tunnel Alternative and High-Level, Fixed Span Bridge Alternative memorandums
- Utility Conflicts memorandum
- Preliminary Cost Estimate (9/20/01)



WisDOT District 3
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54324-0080

A newsletter published by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to keep citizens informed.

Public hearing to be held

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) transportation district office in Green Bay will hold a public hearing to consider location and environmental aspects of the proposed improvement of the Michigan Street Bridge in Sturgeon Bay. The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, 2001 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Stone Harbor Convention Center, 107 N. First Avenue.

The public is invited to attend the public hearing and present relevant oral and/or written testimony concerning the proposed improvement. Provisions have been made for submission of written statements at the hearing. Written comments may also be submitted after the hearing.

The hearing will be held in an "open house" format and include:

- Staff engineers available for individual discussion of the alternatives
- Exhibits of the alternatives will be on display
- A statement about the proposed improvement will be available for review.
- A slideshow presentation providing general project information will be shown at 20 to 30 minute intervals in a separate room.
- A court reporter will be available in a separate room to record oral testimony.

The Environment Document (EA) "This thing is huge!"

You might think this, if and when you sit down to review this document. WisDOT wants you to review it. Due to the complex nature of this project, reviewing the EA is not easy. We'll try to help. Here is a list of steps to follow to obtain a "general overview" of the EA. It will require a concerted effort by the reviewer, but we encourage you to invest the time.

- 1. Read number 1) on pages 1 and 2:**
This explains the "proposed action" for the project.
- 2. Read number 2) on page 2:**
This explains the "purpose and need" of the proposed action and describes existing facilities.
- 3. Read number 3) on page 3:**
This part summarizes the fourteen (14) alternatives that are evaluated in the EA. Turn to the very back of the EA and fold out the list of alternatives for reference while reviewing the EA. Individual alternatives and alternative development are described in pages 4 to 26.
- 4. Turn to pages 28 and 29 - refer to the "Interagency Coordination" table:**
This table lists agencies involved and provides information regarding their involvement.

5. Continue on page 30 and refer to the "Environmental Factors" table:

This table lists a number of socio-economic, natural and cultural factors that have been considered in the evaluation of project alternatives. For a brief overview, read the far left column only to see what factors have been considered. (You might wish to review factor sheets on pages 42 to 141: These sheets expand on a number of environmental factors as summarized in the table referred to in number 5 above. One could revisit these to obtain more specific information on how environmental factors are affected by the various project alternatives.)

6. Continue to page 34 and refer to the "Environmental Cost Matrix":

This table presents information on the various alternatives and allows a simplified comparison of all alternatives. In order to get an idea of the information contained in the matrix, read the far left column. If a particular "issue" interests you, proceed to the right and note the differences between specific alternatives).

7. Review number 8) 9) and 10) on pages 35 to 37:

These pages describe how the project complied with environmental justice, summarize the project's public involvement and describes coordination with local government.

8. Review the "Traffic Summary" table on page 38:

This table provides traffic-related information for the project alternatives. Compare particular items for different alternatives (Appendix C provides definitions for some terms in the table).

9. Review "Environmental Issues" and "Environmental Commitments" on pages 39 and 40:

These pages list environmental issues,

indicating if they are a concern for the project and identify and describe commitments made to the project environment.

10. Browse through the Appendices:

These can be revisited to obtain more detailed information regarding historic structures/buildings, to review agency coordination correspondence, to review traffic definitions and to learn more about project funding issues.

11. Browse through General Exhibits 1 through 9:

These show general, not alternative-specific, project information.

12. Browse through the Typical Sections, Plan View, Impact and other Exhibits:

Consider the type of information contained in these exhibits. Note that each Plan View Exhibit has a corresponding Impact Exhibit of the same number.

13. Review the list of Alternatives at the very end of the EA again:

Try to become familiar with the various alternatives that are being considered in the EA.

By following these 13 steps, you should have a general idea of the information contained in the EA. Please contact WisDOT District 3 with questions.